

were neglected entirely, and Millie was told to do the best she could with the pain. She went from doctor to doctor, and was often told that it was all in her head. About 6 years ago, she started exhibiting other symptoms, only to be given one misdiagnosis after another. Millie had pain in her neck, her shoulders, her wrists, her hips, and she fell constantly.

Finally in the summer of 2006, she was diagnosed with generalized dystonia, a condition where all of the muscles of her body are impacted. Shortly thereafter, Millie's life as she knew it came to an end. In a short period of time she went from climbing the Great Pyramid in Egypt to being in a wheelchair and bed bound. She was constantly in excruciating pain with chronic fatigue and involuntary movements of her arms, hands, neck, mouth, face and eyes.

Luckily, in 2008, she had deep brain stimulation surgery, which provided some relief. But she had yet another battle to fight. Her ability to swallow and eat were impacted to the point that she was on her deathbed, people thought.

Well, through her personal strength, through her resolve, Millie pulled through and she survived. Today, Millie has a feeding tube and braces on her legs, but she is as resilient and as determined as ever. She came to see me here in D.C. in my congressional office, lobbying all of the Members of Congress to be more knowledgeable about her disease dystonia.

Dystonia is a silent, brutal disease. The constant tug of war of muscles forces people to live in constant, severe pain and exhausted. But not Millie. Much of the time the body's struggles are all internal, hiding from an outside observer that the struggle with dystonia encompasses each and every moment. Those with dystonia often say that the disorder "robs you of the freedom to move." It is as terrible as it is debilitating, yet the vast majority of people with dystonia have no negative impact to their intelligence or perceptions. These individuals live their lives imprisoned by the uncontrollable actions of their body in conflict with the will of their minds.

Dystonia is unknown to most Americans, or at best misunderstood. Without proper awareness and diagnosis, the limited therapies that can help people like Millie will never be applied. Together, we must raise awareness of this disorder and support the research that can help find a cure to this silent internal storm.

Millie, I praise you. I congratulate you for your will and determination in the face of this terrible disorder. The challenges that dystonia has presented to you are exceeded by the promise and the hope that your survival has demonstrated. May your resolve, Millie, be a beacon to the hundreds of thousands of Americans who suffer from dystonia.

I welcomed you to the U.S. Capitol and I hope that you come back very

soon, Millie. You are going to find a cure because you are determined to do so.

Congratulations, Millie, and carry on.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. KAPTUR addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

HONORING DEWAYNE STAATS, VOICE OF THE TAMPA BAY RAYS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dewayne Staats, the iconic voice of the Tampa Bay Rays. Broadcasting major league baseball for over 30 years and calling games for the Rays since their inception, Dewayne will call his 5,000th major league ball game tonight when the Rays play the San Diego Padres at St. Petersburg's Tropicana Field. In fact, I think they just got started this evening. Baseball fans all across Tampa Bay and Florida have watched and listened to games called by Dewayne as the Rays have grown from an expansion team to American League champions and one of the best teams in major league baseball. I think the best.

Prior to joining the Rays, Dewayne spent years calling play-by-play for ESPN in a variety of sports, including major league baseball and NCAA baseball, basketball and football, as well as for several other major league teams, including the Houston Astros, the Chicago Cubs, and the New York Yankees. Dewayne began his career as a sports reporter while a student at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, and at the time became the youngest active broadcaster when he began calling major league games in 1976.

Remarkably, he has called six no-hitters, Wade Boggs' 3,000th base hit, and the game in which Pete Rose tied Ty Cobb's major league hits record. Among many accomplishments of an outstanding broadcast career, Dewayne Staats has been honored as one of baseball's all-time top 101 broadcasters by author Curt Smith.

Aside from masterfully calling Rays' games from the broadcast booth, Dewayne and his wife Carla are pillars in the Tampa Bay community, actively supporting the Veteran Employment Transition Foundation and Quantum Leap Farm, a therapeutic and recreational facility for wounded warriors and disabled adults.

Again, I congratulate Dewayne on the occasion of his 5,000th major league broadcast, and I look forward to hearing him call many more Rays wins.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GRAYSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. GRAYSON addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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THE SPACE PROGRAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate being recognized for this hour. I am real pleased to be joined by several of my colleagues.

I want to raise an issue that is of real concern to the people of the State of Texas, the State of Alabama, the State of Florida, those who have, for now, generations almost, been invested in and proud of that great American accomplishment of our space program.

We are an exceptional people, and there is an awful lot of people these days that seem to be ashamed of our exceptionalism. But one of the things that we have been exceptional in since its inception is our space program. I can remember, as a young teenager, when the Russians put Sputnik bleeping over the top of my house in Houston, Texas. And we all stood out in the backyard and watched that thing with its little flashing light going across and thought, Oh, my Lord, the Russians are in space and we are not there. What are we going to do?

But being the exceptional people that Americans are, we put our nose to the grindstone and our brains to work, and in a very short time we met the pledge that President Kennedy made that we would put a man on the Moon in the next decade. So we went from behind the eight ball and watching the Russians have the first satellite in space to manned spaceflight and a trip to the Moon on multiple occasions. In fact, we have had a movie about one of the Moon trips that almost ended in disaster.

We've been open and obvious that we have taken the greatest minds that we could put together in our space program. And at the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, we all in Houston, Texas, and in the State of Texas